

**TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

**West Fertilizer Company dba Adair Grain, Inc. Incident  
Situation Report #41  
May 7, 2013**

**Subject:** April 17, 2013 Explosion at West Fertilizer Company dba Adair Grain, Inc.

**Location:** 1471 Jerry Mashek Drive, West (McLennan County), TX 76691

This report covers activities conducted during the operational period, beginning May 7, 2013 at 0700 hours through May 7, 2013, 1500 hours.

1. Jason Neumann (Waco Region) (SOSC), and Jeff Kunze (Waco Region) (MCC) staffed this operational period until 1900 hours on May 7, 2013.
2. TCEQ contractors conducted air monitoring this operational period. Contractor staff included OMI (7 staff), CTEH (3 staff), and SWS (5 staff) until 1500 hours on May 6, 2013.
3. The focus for this operational period is continued air monitoring. There continues to be no emissions above action levels.
4. Specific chemicals being monitored by CTEH included volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and ammonia.
5. Analytical results from four soil samples and a water sample collected from the offsite discharge into the unnamed tributary west of the fertilizer facility were received on May 4, 2013. The soil samples demonstrated elevated levels of ammonia nitrogen, Dicamba & 2,4-D (herbicides). The water sample demonstrated elevated levels of ammonia nitrogen and Dicamba.
6. On May 6, 2013, an off-property soil sample was collected by OMI. The sample will be tested for ammonia and herbicide/pesticide. This sample will serve as a screening to begin potential delineation of off-site impacted areas. Sample results are pending.
7. David Mann (Waco Region), Richard Monreal (Waco Region) and David Vansoest (Waco and Austin Region) attended a debris management meeting at 1000 hrs. The following topics were discussed:
  - City of West submitted the following documents to TCEQ:
    - a completed Request for Approval of a Temporary Debris Management Site,
    - a letter requesting approval to open the closed landfill; the letter also describes the intended use of the closed landfill site
  - Category A reimbursement will be provided for the City of West (debris removal)

- A landfill site plan will be needed prior to opening the closed landfill site
  - Asbestos issues related to the demolition of structures
  - A City Debris Management meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May, 7, 2013 at 1700hrs. This meeting is with potential contractors.
  - Next debris management meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 9 at 1000 hrs.
8. At 1130 hrs Charles Keith, Matthew Wilber (Crane Engineering) and Dave Williams (Lauderdale Environmental Engineering) arrived at the MCC and requested to meet with TCEQ. We discussed the following:
- Access to the site is being requested to conduct surveying of the actual site boundary
  - Survey will be conducted in order to provide pathways for interested parties assessment of site.
  - Crane Engineering is requesting TCEQ involvement in and approval of the site specific health and safety plan.
  - Following the interested party assessment, Crane Engineering will begin assessment of recoverable products and/or waste materials at the site.
  - The ammonium nitrate railcar covering will be re-secured during initial assessment phase.
  - The earliest potential date for release of site from ATF is Wednesday, May 15, 2013.
  - Communication efforts are underway with the property owner of the land where ATF is currently staging explosion debris and metal.
9. State Contractor (SWS) informed TCEQ that Grones Environmental Services placed piles of dirt onto the perimeter silt fencing. Jeff Kunze (Waco Region) and Jason Neumann (SOSC) observed conditions and instructed Grones Environmental to remove the dirt from the silt fencing and replace silt fence to its original condition.